

Indpt 117J :Get F.I.T.! Exercise

WEB Site Comparison: In-class Exercise

Use a search engine to find two web sites on the same topic or person. For instance, locate two different sites with biographies of Martin Luther King. Working in pairs, please compare and contrast the information found on the sites by filling in the worksheet below. Please take 20 minutes to complete.

1.) Site Purpose: The Internet is like a public bulletin board. Why has this site been created? Is someone trying to sell you something? Inform you? Persuade you?

2.) Site Source/Author: Internet sites come from a wide variety of sponsoring entities and individuals. The resulting content ranges from the definitive to the false. Identify the source of the site. Check especially for a mail-to link so you can e-mail the responsible party with questions and comments.

3.) Site Content:

- Check for accuracy: Web sites are rarely refereed or reviewed. The source of the information should be clearly stated, whether original or borrowed from elsewhere.
- Check for comprehensiveness: Determine if content covers a specific time period or aspect of the topic, or strives to be comprehensive. Use

additional print and electronic sources to complement what you have found.

- **Currency:** Look to see if the site has been updated recently and if the information contained is current.
- **Check for hyperlinks:** Make sure they are relevant and appropriate. Don't assume that the linked sites are the best available. Look elsewhere for additional sites.
- **Style and Functionality:** A well-designed Internet site enhances the information offered. Look for good organization, appropriate writing style, easy navigation and search capability if the site is extensive.